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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 24 MAY 51

SUBJECT Para-Military Training

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF
INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1

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1. In March 1951, about one hundred boys, varying in age from 14 to 17, were in a partisan training center at Slovenska Bistrica. They had been conscripted in the villages for a 6 weeks course. Although all the boys were dressed in their civilian clothes, they did wear stockings and boots of uniform government pattern and military caps. They appeared to be happy and their morale was high.
2. Training was very intensive, tough and comprehensive. No standard arms were issued to the boys on the ground that they had to accustom themselves to using as many different types of rifles and sub-machine guns as possible. An armory at the training center contained, in addition to a heterogeneous collection of rifles, sub-machine guns of Russian, Italian and Czech pattern, grenades and dynamite sticks for sabotage operations.
3. No regular army officers were in evidence in the center and no regular army or air force units cooperated in the partisan exercises. Instructors were all former partisans.
4. Instruction at the training center covered the following subjects:
 - a. First aid.
 - b. Stretcher bearing.
 - c. Methods of hiding and protecting wounded in the course of an engagement.
 - d. Guard duties in the field.
 - e. Message delivery.
 - f. Camouflage tactics in fighting areas against air and land observation.
 - g. Observation of enemy movements and methods of drawing up observation reports.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

Document No. 8
No Change in Class. ☐
☐ Declassified
Class. Changed To: TS S (C)
Auth.: HR 70-2
Date: 3 AUG 1978

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- h. Terrain study and elementary methods of determining position and direction.
- i. Art of memorizing verbal messages.
- j. Methods of digging foxholes and camouflaging them.
- k. Methods of laying mines in fields unobserved.
- l. Methods of hiding secret communications in clothing.
- m. Arms cleaning.
- n. Shooting rifles and sub-machine guns, using live ammunition.
- o. How to behave in enemy occupied towns and villages while carrying out clandestine missions.

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